

## Chapter Research Project

# Animating the Texas Past Creating Living Essays of our History

Query <[www.ntcc.edu/honorsfilms](http://www.ntcc.edu/honorsfilms)>  
For films and scripts.

The work of the NTCC Web Society on its Texas history  
films in 2020  
Covering Activity on:

Starlight Adina De Zavala and Making a Patriotic Supersite.

View on YouTube <https://youtu.be/RjZCBOVM>

Or Query Title on YouTube

Premiered 21 February 2020.

&



De Zavala film in February before COVID struck. We made canceled research trip  
in May



In terms of this preceding year, then, we finished the film *De Zavala* this past November when we presented this work at the virtual NCHC Meeting now close to the premiere of *Pilgrimage* film this 19 February 2021. Our last film premiere, last 21 February, was on the *De Zavala* film.

where Jalyn English presented the film, Bateman had raffles, and all kinds of gifts for children. Her supporters brought a pot luck meal. One had to park in a cow pasture, walk to the building where the dinner and film ~~was held~~

Dr. Yox also presented aspects of our niche cinema endeavors in Texas film at Mount Pleasant Library, 25 February. It was actually our first effort to draw all the films of our ongoing series together for a retrospective viewpoint ~~to be given~~ by two Texas history presenters, Jaidyn Thompson, and Gem Elmore, whose papers might deal with potential topics, the Big Tobacco lawyer, Harold Nix, and the integration of Northeast Texas churches.

**MOUNT PLEASANT LIBRARY**

**LUNCH & LEARN**

**FEATURING 3 NTCC SCHOLARS**  
Presenting on: The Films of Northeast Texas,  
The Integration of northeast Texas Churches,  
and the Story of Harold Nix

.....

**February 25, 2020**  
**12:15 to 1:15 PM**

The Community Role of the  
Mount Pleasant Library • 601 North Madison

.....

**FREE & OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

**FREE**  
Pizza, Salad, Drink  
provided to those  
who RSVP to  
Dr. Andrew Yox at  
ayox@ntcc.edu

Gem Elmore Jaidyn Thompson

**NTCC**  
**NORTHEAST TEXAS**  
**COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

*C.M. Caldwell memorial Award Entry, January 2021*



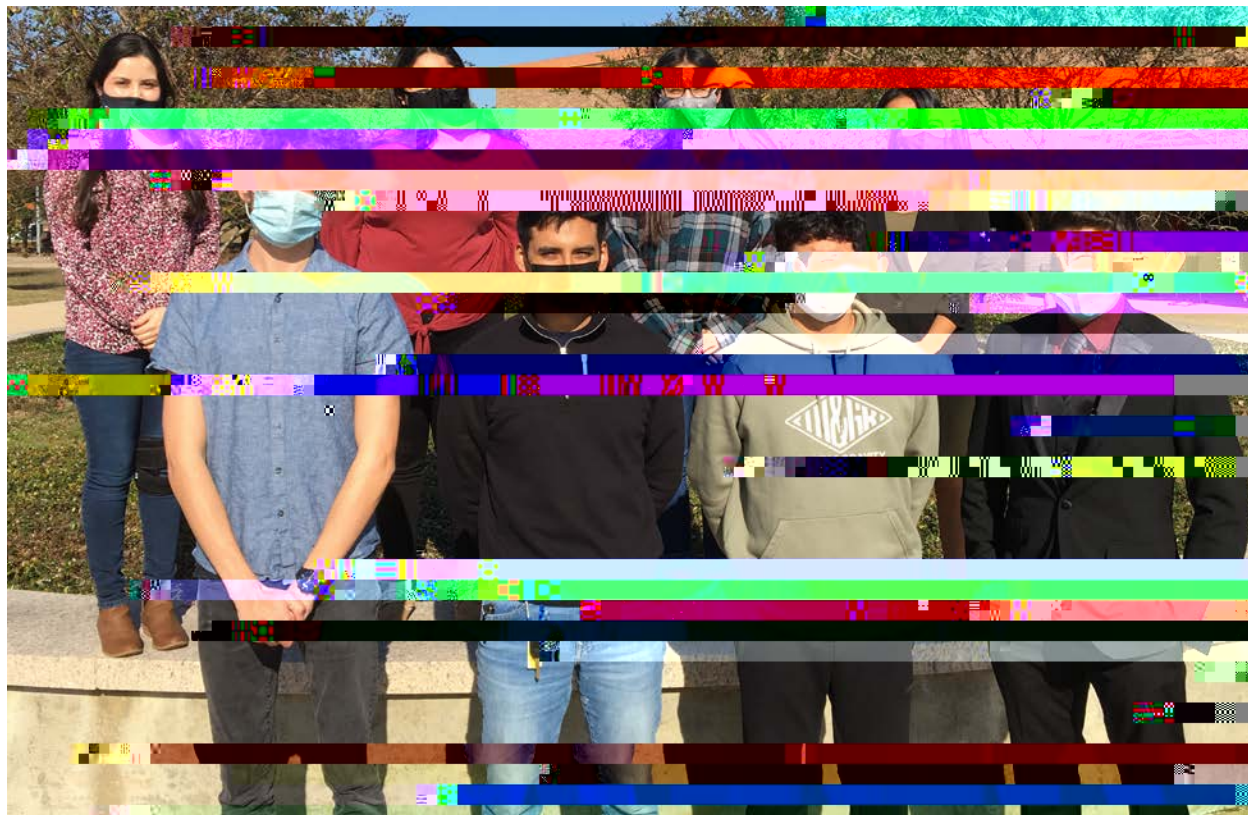
*C.M. Caldwell memorial Award Entry, January 2021*

The overall purpose of filmwork is to educate members of our community and indeed ourselves with significant Texas history themes, enable students to enhance their résumé of citations, and talents, and to build our Webb group into a team.

Our pursuit of the theme of Bo Pilgrim this year came from a very natural sense of subject's relevance for our region. 2021, the year of our premiere, will be the 75 anniversary of the Pilgrim Pride Corporation, which is still the largest processor in the nation, though owned now by JBS Foods of Brazil. The impact of Pilgrim is far obvious, as many of us see his chicken houses or "Pilgrim" banks, or his great chateau p



Alcocer Salas, Aaliyah, Avellaneda, Cade Bennet, Israel Perez, Brian Ramirez, Hilda Rodriguez, and John Rodriguez. Most of this group, by the way, are a living embodiment of Pilgrim's influence. They have relatives who came to Mount Pleasant from Mexico with the purpose of working for Pilgrim's Pride Corporation.



Above: Group that presented virtually for the Fall Webb Society Meeting, read as a book by Andrea Reyes, Honors/PTK Coordinator; Hilda Rodriguez, Avellaneda, Carolina Alcocer Salas, Cade Bennett, Israel Perez, John Rodriguez, and Brian Ramirez

Finally, our film serves to pull us together. We not only end up eating a lot of meals together, and staying in the same Jefferson Bed and Breakfast, but we also have a great time by spending hours together filming and helping each other reciting lines. We were very thankful that our attempt to be safe last summer worked. We went without boom mics, and practiced social distancing and masking through the film experience. No one caught COVID as a result of our filming. We did however lose the participation of some key people like Hannah Bar

Hilda Rodriguez, and Aaliyah Avellaneda either because they had COVID initially and could not participate, or were in COVID quarantine.

Above: Director Jalyn English; cinematographer, Dorali Hernandez; cinematographer, Carolina Alcocer Salas; and Unit Production Director, Brian Ramirez.

### C) Procedures Followed

Thanks to the Webb Society and its encouragement of student research

*C.M. Caldwell memorial Award Entry, January 2021*

meal, we can only thank our donors, especially Jerald and Mary Lou Mowery. With

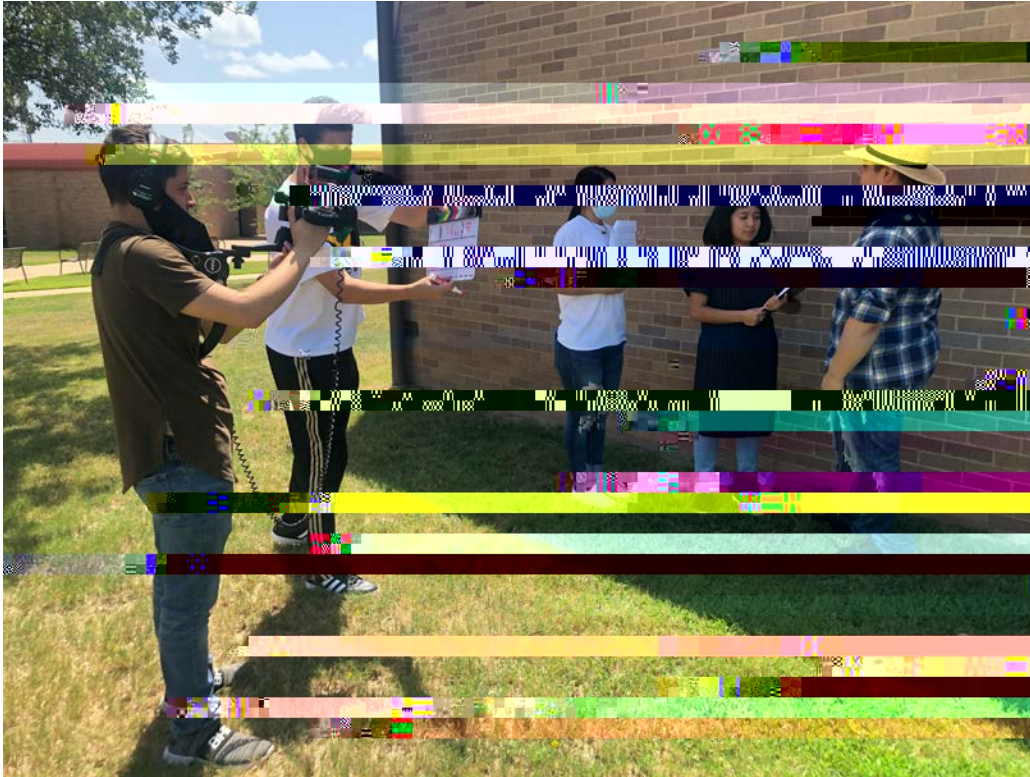


Free Breakfast Outreach at Starbucks in Mount Pleasant, 7 August.

Appendix A notes our itinerary that served to complete some 51 of the needed 53 scenes for the feature-length film. Appendix B notes the ten commandments we devised for governing our behavior during the pandemic. Mentally recruitment sagged in this pandemic summer as, at the time of our filming, the pandemic was raging. We were helped (saved) at the last moment by Andrea Reyes and her family, Julio and Joel, who agreed to learn parts days before filming was about to begin.







Ramirez, English, Hernandez, Alcocer and Mendoza José Guzmán

### The Crew in a Trailer Park

Doing a film in August is optimal because Bed and Breakfasts typically are vacant and willing to not only give us a decent price, but more important, allow us to film in Jefferson, Texas, B.W. and Jessie Brooks at the Carriage House, Tom and Tracey Engle at the Delta House, and Kristy, Ma, and Sean at the Delta House. The Delta House is an incredible location for a film.





We found, however, that Pilgrim remains a controversial and polarizing figure. There was a very powerful group of fellow Republicans in Mount Pleasant, including Art Schar, Bill Ratliff, and Mayor Boatner, who suspected the worst of Pilgrim, finding even his Christianity questionable or insincere. Residents of Pittsburg, by contrast, tend to find Pilgrim a remarkable philanthropist. Local members of the Baptist church point to an amazing eight million dollar chapel he created on the campus of Dallas Baptist University. Former executives at Pilgrim's such as Jane Brookshire, Frank King, and our amanuensis believe he made a formidable contribution to the American diet, and to America's meat industry.

workers settled. He also gave money to the local schools, though not nearly enough to cover the costs of educating a huge incoming population of Spanish workers. John Rodriguez and Hilda Rodriguez (no relation) also find that the Hispanic population by and large tolerated Pilgrim's efforts. We have never yet had a union, a LULAC, or a CIO organization in our small cities. Both John, and Hilda have therefore examined the 'quietism' of local Hispanic workers.

#### F) Significance:

The logical growth of Pilgrim's Pride after 1946 takes us into some very intriguing issues about our modern era.

- 1) Medical Irony: Pilgrim's Pride had its share of high quality veterinarians, and he aspired to provide the best in chicken care. Part of the logic of vertical integration in the chicken business was to raise healthier, leaner birds. Yet his chicken health managers have become more and more paranoid about influenzas, and other bird pandemics. The amount of care it took by the early twentieth century to screen off germs, with foot and car washings, the use of gloves and masks, and other precautions gives us a vision that we hope does not become a permanent mark of human civilization in our modern era.
- 2) Agathokakological Aspect Despite His Essential Decency Pilgrim, a Bible Class teacher, and philanthropist, could be very generous with his Hispanic workers, to whom he would give awards. He was devoutly married to Patti Pilgrim, and gave hundreds of scholarships so that local young people could attend the community college. At the same time, he could be very ruthless, a man who would despoil the environment, and risk the health of thousands of his workers. He was not a very good or successful father, even as he was a good husband. Pilgrim focused a great deal of his abundant energy on being good, and letting his light shine. But he was so powerful, and at the same time so at the mercy of nature.

*C.M. Caldwell memorial Award Entry, January 2021*





At some point we may film in the NTCC Trailer Park. Take your cars. It's near Orina at NTCC. From Whatley, go out to FM 1735, and take a right. Take next right by Baptist Student Center. The Priefert rodeo and trailer park are not too far down road.

Noon: Lunch in Humanities 101

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Kennedy Manor, 217 W Lafayette Street.

- 9 Cade Bennett
- 9 Martin Mendoza
- 9 Maxime Risner

We may have taken out and delivery again for supper.

### 13 August, Thursday.

\*Breakfasts start at various times in the various inns. Do not miss experience! They are great breakfasts. Be sure to touch bases with hosts on this. Breakfasts will be served at all inns on Thursday, and Friday mornings.

9:30 AM. Or So Start Filming.

Lunch delivered.

NTCC nor its staff will be held liable for any mishaps, accidents or sickness resulting from the film experience.

3. We will at all times recognize that droplets and aerosols released from our nose and mouth are the most potent factor in spreading the disease. We will strive to minimize the chance in every situation of transmitting this "human spray effect" that occurs when talking/singing/shouting to others. Everyone will come equipped with at least three masks.
4. Each person, before departing for Jefferson on Tuesday/Wednesday, must attain 'greenlight' and armband from campus, NTCC screening in UHS. After that we will obey all venue rules in B&Bs, and each participant will submit each day to our own temperature checks, with Brian Ramirez, and Andrea Reyes in charge.
5. Cinematographers may make an Establishment ( )Tj /7 (Jy83obm)1 s-1.32 (t)

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<sup>1</sup> Non-Honors Students participating in the film will need to sign attached Travel Voucher.